

No. 117.

THE SLAVE
TWICE LIBERATED.



J. GROOM, BIRMINGHAM;
AND
BAZAAR, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

THE

Slave Twice Liberated.



J. GROOM, BIRMINGHAM ;

AND

BAZAAR, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

THE SLAVE TWICE LIBERATED.

I SPENT twelve years of the best part of my life abroad, in a very hot climate, where, of course, labour of every description is carried on by slaves; and it may be well to say, that on our departure from that beautiful, but most demoralized and dark country, we set free all those slaves who had served us faithfully; those who had not, were allowed to purchase their own freedom, at a low rate. It may not be generally known that this custom prevails, and therefore I think it well to introduce it here as a favourable feature in the dealings of the white, toward the black population;—one also which long practise has almost established as a *law*;—if a slave comes to his owner and enquires what

price will be taken for his liberty, whatever sum the owner mentions is carefully remembered by the slave, and provided he can raise it, either by industry, borrowing, or any other way, and bring it to his master, he is a free man.

But to proceed with my narrative. Among the number of those we set at liberty was one named Loando, who acted in the capacity of cook, and had always been a trustworthy and attached servant. He was about twenty-five years of age. We left him to gain his own livelihood, which was an easy matter in the same line he had been accustomed to, and we returned to England.

About two years after, we were surprised one evening by the servant coming to say there was a black man who wished to see us, and presently

Loando himself appeared. He said "he was now steward of a vessel, had " "arrived in our port of Liverpool, and " "to whom should he come for a home," "but to his old master and mistress?" "he had therefore brought bed and " "bedding, bag and baggage." We received him of course; and during a period of ten years he has ever found our house a refuge, and a home for weeks or months, as his need required. In thus fulfilling the exhortation of the Apostles, "use hospitality one towards another without grudging," and "be not forgetful to entertain strangers," we have in no wise lost our reward. However, let the reader judge of the truth and faithfulness of God to those who take heed to *His* word.

After Loando's first or second arrival, I was much pleased at his asking my consent to attend some adult

school, as he wished to improve his mind during his short visits to England; however, he was unable at that time to do so, the frost having very much affected his feet and legs. His wishes, however, were not unheeded. At his next return my nurse felt sufficiently interested in him to offer her services in teaching him every evening after the children were in bed. To this arrangement both he and I gladly consented, and most persevering and regular were his visits to the nursery.

His progress was of course *very* slow, for the English language was to him quite a strange one; however, he *had that anxiety for improvement* which surmounts a thousand difficulties, and he so far succeeded as to understand a little of what he read, and still more of what others read to him. This continued during several of his

returning visits from sea; I myself taught him the following little prayer, which he made his own, "Oh! Lord, grant me Thy Holy Spirit, for Jesus Christ's sake, Amen."

One day while writing in my dressing room, I heard a tap at the door, and desired the person to come in. It was Loando. He began, "I have a great favour to ask of you." I replied, "I hope, Loando, that it is not for money to spend on foolish presents for those at home." He said "No! but" "it is the greatest *I* have ever yet" "asked, or *you* granted." I then laid down my pen, anxious to hear what he had to say.—He proceeded as follows: "I have found your house a kind" "home for years; I have observed the" "regular ways of your family: I have" "seen a great change in *you* since we" "lived abroad: I have attended fami-"

“ly worship, and understood a great”
“deal of what I have heard : all these”
“things have made a deep impression”
“on my mind, and I feel myself quite”
“a different person. I am often griev-”
“ed with what I see and feel of the”
“wickedness of my own heart, and yet”
“I am a happier man than ever I was”
“in my life ; I find when at sea, such”
“a multitude of thoughts, good and”
“evil, which I never noticed before ;”
“no impression either of joy or sor-”
“row was ever before produced in”
“my mind by inward reflections, in a”
“word, I cannot account for the change”
“that has passed over me, and which”
“has brought me now to make it all”
“known to you. I ask therefore if you”
“will allow me to be baptized and stand”
“sponsor for me ?” I was astonished
and delighted above measure, and said
“Loando ! no words of mine can ex-

press the joy you have now given me; but at the same time we must be cautious: we must not hastily, or rashly undertake so great a thing." I then asked him many questions, all of which he answered in *a manner which satisfied my mind that the God of mercy had dispelled the dark clouds of error and superstition*, and enlightened his soul with the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. He told me his ship was to sail the following day, and even then he had so much to do, he could not return home till the evening. But God had provided; and all things seemed ready. I hastened into the drawing-room, where were three gentlemen who were come to dine with us; *one*, a candidate for the ministry, *one*, a merchant, and the third the minister of St Simon's Church in our town. I related what had passed, and

requested the clergyman to examine Loando, and ascertain as far as possible the state of his mind, and whether his wishes could be accomplished.

When Mr. J— had privately conversed with him, he returned much pleased, and fully satisfied with regard to the propriety of admitting him to that holy ordinance, which was the object of his anxious desire. He said there would be service in his church that evening, and that he should rejoice at the opportunity of baptizing him. The other two gentlemen most readily agreed to be sponsors, and I told Loando, that as the nurse had shown so much patient kindness in teaching him to read, I thought it would be a gratification to her to stand for him instead of myself; but that I would accompany him, and be present at the ceremony. Thus un-

known to us, had our gracious Saviour removed every hindrance, and made our way clear before us. At six o'clock Loando was ready, and we all set forth in company to church. It was a delightful, yet solemn season, for there we beheld the fulfilment of God's word in Rom. x. 11, 12, 13; Ephes. ii. 13 to 22; Colos. iii. 1 to 12. The copy of the register of his baptism is now in my possession.

He sailed the next morning, and during the six years that have elapsed since that eventful day, his conduct has been in every way consistent with the solemn profession which he then made. Very lately he returned from a long voyage, so long that I much feared we had seen him for the last time. I questioned him as to his growth in grace, his love to Jesus, and his desires to benefit those around him, his answers

were all such as I could desire: among other proofs which he gave of his general conduct was this striking one—he said, “as I now try to act like a fol-”
“lower of our Lord, I avoid those”
“habits of self-indulgence and sin too”
“often practised among sailors, in con-”
“sequence of which I have saved six-”
“ty pounds; and being again on the”
“point of sailing, I leave you as my”
“executrix.” He gave me the document, poor fellow, and left me truly thankful to my God, for such practical results of his faith and self-denial.

Loando has made many voyages since this little narrative has been published; one of them deserves particular notice, he sailed in the *Frankland*, and on her homeward voyage within sight of land, and only a few miles from Liverpool; the ship encountered so violent a gale of wind

that all hope was taken away of the vessel being saved; it was a dark November night, the sea and the waves roaring, and men's hearts failing them for fear, Loando described the scene of horror, and confusion, in feeling terms. The *Frankland* WENT DOWN, yet not one man perished, for God remembered her crew, and they all escaped safe to land.

I was anxious to know Loando's state of mind under such a sudden calamity, when there seemed but a step between him and death, when his soul might in a moment be required of him, he assured me he felt perfectly composed, no fear of death alarmed him, he *knew* that Jesus Christ was in the storm, and as *able* to save poor sinners on the dark waters, as on the dry land.

Nothing was saved from the *Frank-*

land but the clothes they wore, and Loando's wages were of course forfeited according to the custom of trade. I would now, therefore, engage the reader of this narrative to magnify the Lord with me, to ascribe to Him the honour due unto his name; to pray for James (the name he received at his baptism) that his faith may be established, and increased; that he may be kept by the power of God unto salvation, and be made an honoured instrument of winning souls to Jesus, and, that as the Sun of Righteousness has risen upon him, so he also may arise and shine. I would also earnestly ask my reader to request of God an enlarged blessing upon every household where family prayer is established, that the members of it may neither regard it as a task, a form, or a mere *duty*, but as a pleasure, a privilege,

a powerful means of grace, in the devout use of which, they may expect the honorable distinction of bringing souls to the knowledge of the truth.

God has shown me by this circumstance, that the mightiest efforts of His servants are unavailing, except His spirit follow the means; and that the weakest endeavours sometimes become effectual, without the exercise of any superior abilities on their part. While God displays his *sovereign* power and mercy in such a case as this, He at the same time commands His people to be diligent in business, to employ *every* means of usefulness, and to expect His blessing in so doing, yet reserving to Himself the prerogative of the *when*, the *how*, and the *where* every sinner shall be brought to Himself.—John vi. 63; 2 Cor. vi. 1; 1 Cor. i. 26 to 31. — E. J.

THE MISSIONARY PENNY.

Would you like to be taught the best use of a penny?
I will tell you a way that is better than any;
Not on follies, or trifles, or playthings to spend it,
But over the seas, for the heathen to send it;
Come listen to me while I tell if you please
Of some poor little children, far over the seas.

Their skins are quite black, for our God made them
thus,

He made them with bodies, and feelings like us;
A soul too, that never can die has been given,
There is room for black children with Jesus in heaven
How sad to remember that such things as these
Are not known to black children, far over the seas.

Poor children in England are well off indeed,
With schools every day, where they sing, sew and
read;

Poor blacks have no bibles or prayer books to read,
Poor, poor little children you are ill off indeed;
But *one penny* would help to procure one with ease,
For these poor little children, far over the seas.

Oh! think then of this when a penny is given,
I can help a poor black on his way home to Heaven;
Then give it for *Jesus*, and He will approve,
He'll not scorn a penny when offered in love;
And oh! when you're praying to Him on your knees
Remember black children, far over the seas.

37131 039 910 054

PUBLISHED BY J. GROOM.

On the importance of Reading the Scriptures	¼d.
The First Lie	¼d.
Betty, the New Zealand Slave Girl ..	½d.
The Dying Soldier	½d.
The Will Examined	½d.
The Eleventh Hour	½d.
On Selfishness in Religion	½d.
Earthly Care, a Heavenly Discipline ..	½d.
Taught of God	½d.
The Great Question	1d.
The Happy Meeting	1d.
The Twice-Broken Leg	1d.
A Glimpse of the Redeemed in Glory ..	1½d.
A Gathered Blossom	1½d.
Insensible Influence	1½d.
Look and Live!	2d.
Evening Conversations	3d.
The Christian's Blessed Hope	3d.
Anecdotes, with Scripture Proofs ..	4d.
Dairyman's Daughter, <i>cloth, lettered</i> ..	6d.
Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, ,, ..	8d.
Olney Hymns, ,, .. .	8d.
The Bible Scholar's Help, ,, .. .	8d.
Bogatzky's Golden Treasury, ,, .. .	10d.
The Two Houses, <i>handbill</i>	6d. per 100.
"I See, I See" ,, .. .	6d. per 100.